

## **Amendments to the Claims:**

*This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:*

1. (currently amended) A silane-containing polyvinyl alcohol polymer comprising a completely hydrolyzed or partially hydrolyzed vinyl ester copolymer having a degree of hydrolysis of from 75 to 100 mol%, obtained by free radical polymerization of

- a) one or more vinyl esters of straight-chain or branched alkane carboxylic acids having 1 to 18 carbon atoms, of which an amount of from 1 to 30 mol%, based on total polymer, are one or more 1-alkylvinyl esters of  $C_{1-6}$  carboxylic acids, where the 1-alkyl groups are  $C_{1-6}$  alkyl radicals;
- b) from 0.01 to 10 mol% of one or more silane-containing, ethylenically unsaturated monomers, and
- c) optionally further comonomers copolymerizable therewith,

and hydrolysis of the polymers obtained thereby<sub>1</sub>[[.]]

wherein the silane-containing, ethylenically unsaturated monomers is selected from the group consisting of ethylenically unsaturated silicon compounds of the general formula  $R^1SiR^2_{0-2}(OR^3)_{1-3}$ , in which each  $R^1$  is independently  $CH_2=CR^4-(CH_2)_{0-1}$  or  $CH_2=CR^4CO_2(CH_2)_{1-3}$ , each  $R^2$  independently is a  $C_{1-3}$ -alkyl radical,  $C_{1-3}$ -alkoxy radical, or halogen, each  $R^3$  independently is an optionally branched, optionally substituted  $C_{1-12}$  alkyl radical or a  $C_{2-12}$  acyl radical optionally interrupted by an ether group, and each  $R^4$  is independently H or  $CH_3$ , a (meth)acrylamide containing silane groups of the formula  $CH_2=CR^5-CO-NR^6-R^7-SiR^8_m-(R^9)_{3-m}$ , in which  $m = 0$  to  $2$ , each  $R^5$  is independently H or a methyl group, each  $R^6$  is independently H or a  $C_{1-5}$  alkyl group, each  $R^7$  is independently a  $C_{1-5}$  alkylene group or a bivalent organic group in which the carbon chain is interrupted by an O or N atom, each  $R^8$  is independently a  $C_{1-5}$  alkyl group, and each  $R^9$  is independently a  $C_{1-40}$  alkoxy group optionally containing further heteroatoms selected from the group consisting of O, N, S, or P, and mixtures thereof.

2. (original) The silane-containing polyvinyl alcohol of claim 1, wherein the vinyl ester a) comprises vinyl acetate.
3. (original) The silane-containing polyvinyl alcohol of claim 1, wherein the 1-alkylvinyl ester comprises 1-methylvinyl acetate.
4. (original) The silane-containing polyvinyl alcohol of claim 1, having a Höppler viscosity according to DIN 53015, as 4% by weight aqueous solution of from 2 to 50 mPas.
5. (previously presented) The silane-containing polyvinyl alcohol of claim 1, wherein at least one silane-containing, ethylenically unsaturated monomers is selected from the group consisting of ethylenically unsaturated silicon compounds of the general formula  $R^1SiR^2_{0-2}(OR^3)_{1-3}$ , in which each  $R^1$  is independently  $CH_2=CR^4-(CH_2)_{0-1}$  or  $CH_2=CR^4CO_2(CH_2)_{1-3}$ , each  $R^2$  independently is a  $C_{1-3}$ -alkyl radical,  $C_{1-3}$ -alkoxy radical, or halogen, each  $R^3$  independently is an optionally branched, optionally substituted  $C_{1-12}$  alkyl radical or a  $C_{2-12}$  acyl radical optionally interrupted by an ether group, and each  $R^4$  is independently H or  $CH_3$ , and a (meth)acrylamide containing silane groups of the formula  $CH_2=CR^5-CO-NR^6-R^7-SiR^8_m-(R^9)_{3-m}$ , in which  $m = 0$  to  $2$ , each  $R^5$  is independently H or a methyl group, each  $R^6$  is independently H or a  $C_{1-5}$  alkyl group, each  $R^7$  is independently a  $C_{1-5}$  alkylene group or a bivalent organic group in which the carbon chain is interrupted by an O or N atom, each  $R^8$  is independently a  $C_{1-5}$  alkyl group, and each  $R^9$  is independently a  $C_{1-40}$  alkoxy group optionally containing further heteroatoms selected from the group consisting of O, N, S, or P.
6. (original) The silane-containing polyvinyl alcohols of claim 1, wherein said polymerization is a mass polymerization, a suspension polymerization or a polymerization in organic solvents.

7. (original) In a coating slip wherein a polymeric binder is employed, the improvement comprising selecting as at least one polymeric binder, a silane-containing polyvinyl alcohol of claim 1.

8. (original) In a coating slip wherein a polymeric binder is employed, the improvement comprising selecting as at least one polymeric binder, a silane-containing polyvinyl alcohol of claim 2.

9. (original) In a coating slip wherein a polymeric binder is employed, the improvement comprising selecting as at least one polymeric binder, a silane-containing polyvinyl alcohol of claim 3.

10. (original) In a coating slip wherein a polymeric binder is employed, the improvement comprising selecting as at least one polymeric binder, a silane-containing polyvinyl alcohol of claim 4.

11. (original) In a coating slip wherein a polymeric binder is employed, the improvement comprising selecting as at least one polymeric binder, a silane-containing polyvinyl alcohol of claim 5.

12. (original) A coating slip-coated substrate, comprising a substrate and the coating slip of claim 7.

13. (original) The coating slip-coated substrate of claim 12, wherein the substrate comprises paper, plastics-coated paper, or a plastics foil.

14. (original) The coating slip-coated substrate of claim 12, wherein the substrate is paper.

15. (original) The coating slip-coated substrate of claim 12, wherein said coating slip-coated substrate is suitable for use in ink jet printing.

16. (new) The polyvinyl alcohol of claim 1, wherein silane-containing ethylenically unsaturated monomers are copolymerized in an amount of from 0.01 to 1.0 mol percent.

17. (new) A silane-containing polyvinyl alcohol polymer comprising a completely hydrolyzed or partially hydrolyzed vinyl ester copolymer having a degree of hydrolysis of from 75 to 100 mol%, obtained by free radical polymerization of

- a) a vinyl ester component comprising vinyl acetate, a 1-alkylvinyl ester selected from the group consisting of 1-methylvinyl acetate, 1-ethylvinyl acetate, 1-propylvinyl acetate, and mixtures thereof, and optionally further vinyl esters of straight-chain or branched C<sub>1-18</sub> monocarboxylic acids, wherein polymerized 1-alkylvinyl ester monomers comprise from 1 to 30 weight percent of the polymer.
- b) from 0.01 to 10 mol% of one or more silane-containing, ethylenically unsaturated monomers, and
- c) optionally further comonomers copolymerizable therewith,

and hydrolysis of the polymers obtained thereby.

18. (new) The polymer of claim 17, wherein no optional comonomers c) are present.

19. (new) The polymer of claim 17, wherein the 1-alkylvinyl ester consists essentially of 1-methylvinyl acetate.

20. (new) The polymer of claim 1, wherein no further vinyl esters other than vinyl acetate and 1-methylvinyl acetate are monomers.